

MINUTES - FREEMUSE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

On-line meeting, Wednesday 11 April 2018, 18.00-20.30 CET

ATTENDEES

Executive Committee

Martin Cloonan, Chair

Frank Geary

Krister Malm

Layla Al- Zubaidi

Daniel Brown (attended with delay due to train strike in France)

Secretariat

Srirak Plipat, Executive Director

Dwayne Mamo, Communications and Campaigns Manager

Klaus Dik Nielsen, Interim Senior Program Coordinator

Unable to attend

Sam Farai Monroe

*Dwayne Mamo and Klaus Dik Nielsen did not take part in agenda items 3 and 5

AGENDA

1. SIDA Report, Long form audit report and annual report
2. State of Artistic Freedom Report
3. Staffing
4. Music Freedom Day
5. Mediation
6. Budget 2018
7. Membership and General Assembly/EC election
8. Role of Advisory Board
9. EC meetings June and November
10. Meetings with donors
11. Freemuse archive

12. AOCB

1 SIDA Report, Long form audit report and annual report

After reviewing and questioning on the reports to the ED, the EC was satisfied with the narrative as well as financial reports and subsequently signed the two latter.

2. State of Artistic Freedom (SAF) Report 2018

The ED reported that the production and launch of the report has strengthened Freemuse's voice of authority, lifted the quality of artistic freedom research and brought the team together in the process.

Action Points

2.1 The secretariat took note of concerns about the public messaging of SAF around the report and will strengthen the language in public and private settings that current Freemuse work is built on previous work and experiences.

2.2: A focus on what role music should play will be included at the June EC agenda on overall strategies and future plans.

3. Staffing

The ED reported that overall staff situation is under control and that the temporary difficult time after the departure of two senior staff is over. The SAF report unintentionally helped bring the team together. The team is in a healthy stage and in good morale. They are proud of SAF 2018 and excited about what future would bring. The ED updated the EC on recruitment in the near future.

4. Music Freedom Day (MFD)

After 11 years Music Freedom Day is a known entity and has become part of large events, concerts and festivals. New procedures and approaches on campaigning and how Freemuse engages with partners were developed and applied for the 2018 Music Freedom Day and an evaluation report put together. Partners from 14 countries took action on MFD.

5. Budget 2018

Questions were asked about underspend of funds in 2017 and the 2018 budget. The EC approved the 2018 budget.

6. Membership and General Assembly/EC election

There was some concern the current number of members is small. The *Timeline of the 2018 General Assembly* document was discussed and a few recommendations made.

Action Points

- 6.1 Secretariat to share current membership status at EC meeting in June
- 6.2 Membership strategy to be an agenda item including the nascent Artistic Freedom Defenders Network
- 6.3 The EC approved timeline for the GA with minor edits.
- 6.4 Discussion on GA will be further discussed at the June EC meeting.

7. Role of Advisory Board

Concern was expressed that expertise of existing advisory board members has not been fully drawn and suggestions to look for particular areas of expertise of future EC members such as financial, fundraising and media expertise, were made.

Action Points

- 7.1 Profile of existing advisory board members to be made
- 7.2 Role of Advisory Board members to be discussed at EC meeting in June
- 7.3 The needs for variety of expertise of EC to be discussed at the EC meeting in June

8. EC Meetings in June and November:

The EC felt a need to meet in person in June to primarily talk about an overall strategy in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere with ample time for brainstorming and looking to the future. There will not be a separate EC meeting in November, but it is suggested that three of the current EC members can take part at the General Assembly on 10/11 November 2018.

Action Point

- The November GA to be discussed at the EC June meeting

9. Meeting with donors, Stockholm 14 March 2018

Management briefed the EC on a meeting with the Section for Cultural Affairs in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). NMFA approved both reports at the meeting and Sida requested additional information.

Action Point

- The ED to update on the fund-raising strategy at the EC meeting in June

11. Freemuse Archive

The ED informed that the city of Malmo is supportive of artists at risk, are archiving arts from artists at risk and has invited Freemuse to collaborate. It was recommended that former Freemuse director, Maria Korpe be involved in this project.

12. AOCB

Newsletters

Questions were asked on the recent downscaling of Freemuse newsletters and the secretariat replied that the communications team is looking at various communications products to gauge what are the most effective means of communication to different audiences. With regard to the newsletter many people are used to this product and the communications team are experimenting with making it as relevant and attractive as possible.

Freemuse promotional material for festivals

EC asked if it is possible to produce a Freemuse presentation/package that can be shared with EC members for them to use when approaching festivals etc. The secretariat can provide the need information when requested.